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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/036,218	10/23/2001	Albertus Maria Gerardus Claessen	8913	4019

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EXAMINER

TRAN, KHAI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2637

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/036,218

Applicant(s)

GERARDUS CLAESSEN,
ALBERTUS MARIA

Examiner

KHAI TRAN

Art Unit

2637

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 6, line 1, the term “the remodulated spectrum” lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 6-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Herman et al (U.S. Pat. 6,108,367).

Regarding claims 1, 4, Herman et al disclose a electronic price label (ESL) system comprising: an ESL receiving a message transmitted from a communication base station (a communication between from the transceiver mounted on ceiling and a multiplicity of ESL (or tags) (col. 4, lines 10-28), the ESL including a transmitter for transmitting a response to the message by reflectively modulating a continuous wave (CW) signal with a pseudo random code sequence (col. 3, lines 30-46, and col. 4, line

46 to col. 5, line 20 which show that the transceiver receiver correlates the received reflective signal).

Regarding claim 2, Herman et al disclose wherein the CW signal is transmitted by the communication base station (CBS) during a time period in which the ESL response (col. 3, lines 30-46, and col. 10, lines 33-47).

Regarding claim 3, the pseudo random code sequence is selected by the ESL from a plurality of pseudo random code sequences (col. 6, lines 25-42).

Regarding claims 6-8, Herman et al disclose the message being transmitted to ESL using a Manchester coded amplitude modulated carrier (col. 4, lines 10-27); and the message including a command instructing the ESL to perform an action and the response including an acknowledge indicating the ESL successfully performed the action (col. 10, lines 33-47).

Regarding claims 9-10, Herman et al also disclose the ESL for selecting a seed value corresponding to the response and generating the pseudo random code based on the seed value (col. 6, lines 25-42).

Regarding claims 11-12, Herman et al disclose the ESL modulating the code sequence onto a carrier to generate a digitally modulated signal (see Fig. 1).

Regarding claims 13-14, wherein the CDS bandpass filters the response and performs demodulation to remove the carrier (see Fig. 7, and col. 9, lines 44-60); the CBS correlates the response (col. 4, line 46 to col. 5, line 20).

Regarding claim 15, Herman et al disclose the CBS relaying the response to a host system for identification (col. 6, lines 1-12).

Claims 16-23 are similar to claims 1, 9-15. Therefore, claims 16-23 are rejected under a similar rationale.

Claims 24-33 are similar to claims 1-13. Therefore, claims 24-33 are rejected under a similar rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herman et al (U.S. Pat. 6,108,367).

Regarding claim 5, Herman et al fail to explicitly disclose the carrier oscillating at about 32 kHz. However, Herman et al disclose a carrier oscillator (18) for creating the two frequency components around the frequency of the incoming signal. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the carrier to oscillate at about 32 kHz in order to meet a require of the FCC regulation.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Evans et al (U.S. Pat. 5,640,683) disclose a modulated backscatter communication system.

MacLellan et al (U.S. Pat. 5,647,296) disclose a duplex radio communication system.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHAI TRAN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3019. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JAY PATEL can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


KHAI TRAN
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2637

KT
September 21, 2004